

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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TAGS: PFOR, IS, UG, NP.

SUBJ: NEPALESE REACTION TO ISRAELI RAID

1. PRIVATE REACTION OF NEPALESE LEADERSHIP TO RECENT ISRAELI RAID AGAINST ENTEBBE AIRPORT IS NEARLY UNIVERSAL IN ITS ACCLAIM. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS EXPRESSED RELIEF AND GRATITUDE FOR ISRAELI DECISION, ALTHOUGH THEY ALSO OFFERED VIEW THAT "TERRORISTS WILL BE OBLIGED TO RETALIATE". ONE RUSSIAN DIPLOMAT AT JULY 4TH RECEPTION WAS OBSERVED TO REMARK QUIETLY TO ISRAELI AMBASSADOR THAT "ALTHOUGH I CAN'T SAY SO PUBLICLY, MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS." TWO PROMINENT LEFTIST NEPALESE POLITICIANS ALSO TOLD EMBOFF THAT THEY THOUGHT ISRAEL SHOULD BE CONGRATULATED BY WORLD FOR ITS PROMPT AND DECISIVE ATTACK, BUT BOTH ADMITTED THEY COULD NOT MAKE SUCH STATEMENTS PUBLICLY.

2. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN BALANCED. SEMI-OFFICIAL DAILY RISING NEPAL OFFERED VIEW THAT RAID WILL STRENGTHEN THE VIEW OF "NO COMPROMISE HARD LINE IN DEALING WITH HIJACKERS... AND COULD THUS LEAD TO DISCOURAGING WOULD-BE-HIJACKERS" IN FUTURE. PAPER ALSO NOTES, HOWEVER, THAT RAID
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WAS CLEAR VIOLATION OF UGANDAN SOVEREIGNTY CARRIED

OUT WITH ASSISTANCE OF KENYA, FACT WHICH WILL
HAVE SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS FOR POLITICS IN AFRICA.
EDITORIAL CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT TERRORISM
IS LIKELY TO PERSIST AS LONG AS ROOT CAUSES
REMAIN UNSOLVED AND CALLS FOR JUST SOLUTION TO PALESTINIAN
PROBLEM.
MAYTAG

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